

Message Text

SECRET

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62
ORIGIN SS-10

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DRAFTED BY: S/ S- O: JCRAIG
4/18/73
APPROVED BY: S/ S- O: SEFRY

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O 182345 Z APR 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 072984

EXDIS TODEP 90

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO VIENNA NATO BRUSSELS
FROM LONDON 18 APR 73 REPEATED:

QUOTE LONDON 4571

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM, UK
SUBJECT: MBFR - HUNGARIAN PARTICIPATION ISSUE
REFS: STATE 71829 AND LONDON 4560

1. WE DELIVERED SECRETARY'S MESSAGE ON MBFR TO FOREIGN
SECRETARY'S PRIVATE OFFICE THIS MORNING. IT WILL BE
BROUGHT TO SIR ALEC'S ATTENTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
2. AFTERWARDS WE SAW WIGGIN AND MCLAREN. WIGGIN'S
PERSONAL REACTION WAS THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE
" IMPRACTICABLE" TO MAKE ANY CHANGE IN INSTRUCTIONS
SENT TO UK NATO FOR TODAY'S NAC MEETING (LONDON 4560).
DISPOSITION OF BOTH WIGGIN AND MCLAREN WAS TO RECOMMEND
TO FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT SECRETARY'S MESSAGE BE CONSID-
ERED CAREFULLY IN CONTEXT NAC DISCUSSIONS TODAY AND
REPLY BE SENT IN A COUPLE OF DAYS. WIGGIN SAID HOWEVER
HE WOULD HAVE TO SEEK GUIDANCE. HE PROMISED TO BE IN

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TOUCH WITH US LATER IN THE DAY.

3. DISCUSSING BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET PROCEDURES PAPER, WIGGIN AMPLIFIED A BIT ON WHAT TICKELL HAD TOLD US LAST NIGHT. HE SAID BRITISH READILY AGREE THAT VIENNA EXERCISE SHOULD BE WOUND UP QUICKLY, BUT THEY DO NOT SEE NEED FOR HASTE IN TRYING TO FIND NAC CONSENSUS. BRITISH CLING TO HOPE THAT NAC WILL TAKE TIME TO EXPLORE ISSUE CAREFULLY AND EXAMINE ALTERNATIVES. WIGGIN OBSERVED THAT BRITISH POSITION ON SOVIET PROCEDURES PAPER " IS NOT A CATEGORIC NO BUT THERE IS NO BLINKING THE FACT THAT WE DON' T LIKE THE PAPER." TICKELL USED STRONGER LANGUAGE LAST NIGHT TO EXPRESS HIS DISTASTE FOR THE PROCEDURES PAPER. WIGGIN ALSO SAID BRITISH WERE NOT AT ALL SATISFIED THAT THE LINK BETWEEN HUNGARY AND ITALY HAD BEEN BROKEN; ONLY THE NAME OF ITALY HAD BEEN OMITTED FROM THE PROPOSED EASTERN STATEMENT. BRITISH ARE STILL TROUBLED BY IMPLICATION IN PARA TWO THAT DELIBERATIVE COUNTRIES WILL REDUCE THEIR FORCES. WIGGIN ADMITTED THAT IN LEGAL SENSE BRITISH POSITION APPEARED TO BE PROTECTED BY USE OF WORD " POTENTIAL" BUT IN POLITICAL SENSE IMPLICATION THAT BRITISH WOULD REDUCE WAS STILL VERY MUCH THERE AND BRITISH CONSIDER IT COULD PROVE TROUBLESOME IN THE FUTURE. SOHM UNQTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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